

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-87. (Canceled)

88. (Currently amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 74 or 85,~~ A method for reducing the antigenicity, relative to wild-type AAV, of an AAV particle, the method comprising introducing at least one modification into a structural protein of AAV, the structural protein being selected from the group consisting of AAV VP1, VP2, and VP3, wherein the modification brings about a reduction in the antigenicity of the virus relative to wild-type AAV and wherein the modified structural protein forms AAV particles and the AAV having the modified structural protein retains infectivity, and further wherein the modification(s) is/are brought about by one or more deletions positioned between the BsrBI/HindII cleavage sites of the VP1-encoding nucleic acid and one or more insertions.

89. (Canceled)

90. (Currently amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 74 or 85,~~ A method for reducing the antigenicity, relative to wild-type AAV, of an AAV particle, the method comprising introducing at least one modification into a structural protein of AAV, the structural protein being selected from the group consisting of AAV VP1, VP2, and VP3, wherein the modification brings about a reduction in the antigenicity of the virus relative to wild-type AAV and wherein the modified structural protein forms AAV particles and the AAV having the modified structural protein retains infectivity, and further wherein the modification(s) is/are brought about by one or more deletions positioned between the BsrBI/HindII cleavage sites of the VP1-encoding nucleic acid.

91. (Currently amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 74 or 85,~~ A method for reducing the antigenicity, relative to wild-type AAV, of an AAV particle, the method comprising introducing at least one modification into a structural protein of AAV, the structural protein being selected from the group consisting of AAV VP1, VP2, and VP3, wherein the modification brings about a reduction in the antigenicity of the virus relative to wild-type AAV and wherein the modified structural protein forms AAV particles and the AAV having the modified structural protein retains infectivity, and further wherein the modification(s) is/are one or more insertions in VP3 that is/are located before and/or after adjacent to at least one amino acid in a sequence selected from the group consisting of YKQIS SQSGA (SEQ ID NO: 2), YLTLN NGSQA (SEQ ID NO: 3), YYLSR TNTPS (SEQ ID NO: 4), EEKFF PQSGV (SEQ ID NO: 5), NPVAT EQYGS (SEQ ID NOS: 6, 7), LQRGV RQAAT (SEQ ID NO: 8), and NVDFV VDTNG (SEQ ID NO: 9).

92-93. (Canceled)

94. (New) The method as claimed in any of claims 88 or 91, wherein at least one of said modifications is based on a covalent or noncovalent linkage to the structural protein of one or more compound(s) selected from the group consisting of biotin, a mono- or oligosaccharide, a hydroxide group, an F_{ab} fragment, and one or more amino acid(s) or amino acid sequence(s).

95. (New) The method as claimed in any of claims 88, 90, or 91, wherein the modification is a mutation selected from the group consisting of a point mutation, a mutation of more than one amino acid, one or more deletions, one or more insertions, and a combination of these mutations.

96. (New) The method as claimed in any of claims 88 or 91, wherein the modification comprises a protein or a peptide inserted into the structural protein.

97. (New) The method as claimed in claim 96, wherein the inserted protein or peptide is selected from the group consisting of a cell membrane receptor ligand, a Rep protein or peptide, an integrin, a cytokine or receptor-binding domain of a cytokine, a growth factor, a single-chain antibody, a single-chain antibody binding to a cell surface receptor, a catecholamine, protein A or a part thereof, protein G or a part thereof, or an anti-Fc antibody or a part thereof .

98. (New) The method as claimed in any of claims 88, 90, or 91, wherein the structural protein comprises at least one other modification.